

From the German.
THE LIFE-CLOCK.

There is a little mystic clock,
No human eye hath seen,
That beateth on—and beateth on,
From morning until even.

And when the soul is wrapped in sleep,
And heareth not a sound,
It ticks and ticks the living night,
And never ceaseth down.

O wondrous is that work of art
Which knells the passing hour.
But art ne'er formed, nor mind conceived,
The life-clock's magic power.

Nor set in gold, nor decked with gems
By wealth and pride possessed;
But rich or poor, or high or low,
Each bears it in his breast.

When life's deep stream, 'mid beds and flowers,
All still and softly glides,
Like the wavelet's step, with a gentle beat,
It warns of passing tides.

When thraughting darkness gathers o'er,
And hopes bright visions flee,
Like the sullen stroke of the muffled oar,
It beateth heavily.

When passion naves the warrior's arm
For deeds of hate and wrong,
Through heed not the fearful sound,
The knell is deep and strong.

When eyes are gazing soft,
And tender words are spoken,
Then fast and wild it rattles on,
As if with love 'twere broken.

Such is the clock that measures life,
Of flesh and spirit blended;
And thus 'twill run within the breast
Till that strange life is ended.

DEEP PLOWING.

In 1828, the celebrated Dr. COOPER, of South Carolina, in an article in the *South ern Review*, on the "Principles of Agriculture," made the remark, that "accurate pulverization, and deep plowing, are, as yet, very uncommon in our Southern States generally, and in South Carolina in particular." This was written, printed, and published a little more than eighty years ago. And though since then, reasons have been immensely multiplied, from the wearing out of our soil, and the diminished value of our chief crop—cotton—why an improved system of Agriculture should be adopted, yet here we are, driving along in the old beaten track of our ancestors, and spinning, too generally, every proposed improvement, especially if it be suspected to come from books.

But it is useless to complain. Time will work a cure, after a while, in spite of all the resistance of bigotry and folly. Stern necessity will compel other generations to profit by the lessons taught by science, even though they be recorded in books, as has actually happened in England in the course of the last hundred years.

We wish we could transfer to our columns the whole of Dr. Cooper's article on the "Principles of Agriculture." We are compelled, for want of room, to confine ourselves to an extract of so much of it as relates to pulverization and deep plow-

ing. "Jethro Tull, who published in 1731 and 1733, and who died in 1740, may be considered as the father, 1st, of the practice of pulverizing the soil to a degree not in use before. It is true, he considered this practice essential, not only as affording a more passage to the tap-roots, and the lateral fibres of roots, and encouraging the growth, but as a complete substitute for manuring; inasmuch as he considered earth itself as a pabulum or food of plants; wherein he was undoubtedly in error.—2dly, of the Drill Husbandry.—3dly, of the Horse-Hoeing Husbandry.—4thly, of the abolition of Fallows;—and 5thly, as the obvious result of his principles, Deep Plowing.

"It is long before the precepts of good sense and sound philosophy are brought into common practice. We think it may be said, that accurate pulverization and deep plowing, are, as yet, very uncommon in our Southern States generally, and in South Carolina in particular; although the hot and dry summers of a southern climate seem peculiarly and loudly to call for this practice. Suppose a field plowed 1, 3 and 12 inches deep.

- 1 A
- 8 B
- 12 C

when rains come, on whose moisture the plants will have to subsist during perhaps, a two-months' drought, the four inch plowing will be thoroughly soaked with moisture for four inches down to A; and the water will percolate with difficulty through the un-stirred ground from A to B, but will run off in a great part, to supply springs and hollows at a lower level, and be lost to the field. But if the ground be plowed eight inches from the surface down to B, there will be a body of moist earth for the gradual supply of the roots eight inches deep instead of four, and will, therefore, last twice as long as the moisture contained between the surface and A. So, if the ground be will plowed and stirred as low as C, the supply of moist earth will take a long period of evaporation from below, before it be exhausted. The absolute quantity of moisture retained, will of course depend on the capacity of the soil for retaining moisture; but he holds more or less, the above reasoning will hold good; the ground will be thoroughly soaked, so far and no farther than it can permit the water to percolate; so when the under soil is so hard as to prevent an obstacle to its passage, it will run off to some lower level, or be converted into a reservoir of

water, which the heat of the earth will gradually evaporate among the roots of the plants. To make a sandy soil more retentive of moisture, Gen. Beatson's plan of manuring with half burnt clay, pulverized, to the amount of from 30 to 50 loads per acre, would, undoubtedly, be attended with the happiest effects; and we are fully inclined to believe this would be an addition, as valuable, at least, as the same quantity of stable manure; for it would be more permanent. Deep plowing, therefore, furnishes a reservoir of moisture for the roots to feed upon, when the surface earth is parched by long continued heat. All this is familiar to every gardener, and we believe this mode of explaining one of the good effects of deep plowing in our climate will be intelligible and perhaps convincing; but it will take a long time to persuade a planter or farmer that the practice of a gardener will repay the cost.

"Another advantage of deep plowing and pulverization is, the facility it affords to the tap roots and side shoots that branch off from the main root, to extend themselves to find nourishment, and to contribute to the growth of the plant. About the middle of October, we went into a cotton field of poor and sandy soil, and plucked up two plants by the root; digging down (not a difficult operation) to the bottom of the main tap root. One of them was from a part of the field where the soil was loose and well pulverized for about four inches deep; the other plant was taken from a part of the field where the earth appeared to be more baked and hard; the larger root (the first mentioned) was seven inches long from the surface of the ground; the other was six inches long. The root from the part of the field most loose and pulverized was about double the size of the other, and its side shoots about six times the thickness of the other; it weighed also about three times as much. The whole field had not (from appearances) been stirred by the plow more than about four or five, inches deep; but the superior size of the larger root was manifestly owing to the facility afforded to the side shoots in their search for food. We think it too much to say, that had the whole field been plowed twelve inches deep the crop on the same space of ground would probably have been doubled. All that we have read, and all that we have seen, convinces us, that the nearer agriculture approaches to Horticulture, the more perfect will it be, and the better will it remunerate the labor expended.

"Gen. Beatson, from explaining the East Indian and Chinese plows, so light and simple in their structure, and the effect produced by them, arrived at the opinion, that deep plowing could be effected more easily, more cheaply, and as perfectly, by means of light plows or scarifiers drawn by one horse, and repeatedly working in the same furrow till the required depth was obtained, than by heavy plows drawn by four oxen or horses; and that the required pulverization of the soil would be more easily and effectually produced by this repetition, than by one deep plowing in the common way. Hence, he runs a light plow or a scarifier six or eight times along the same furrow. If the facts detailed in his book are to be believed, of which we see no reason to doubt, the practice recommended by him, is attended with the desired success, and a great improvement on small farms it will assuredly prove. Heavy plows and a numerous team cannot be prudently purchased or easily maintained but by farmers on an extensive scale, who can supply constant work to this expensive team; and, therefore, deep and effectual plowing cannot take place where farming is carried on a small scale, or where the tenant or occupier is straitened for capital. The practice of gardeners in respect of deep stirring the earth and effectually loosening the subsoil, appears to be the greatest practical improvement that could be introduced into agriculture. Every modern garden, commenced upon approved principles is dug all over at first, full two spits deep."

COLLECT, MAKE, SAVE MANURE!—Every farmer ought to have a system of management; and the regular, daily increase of the manure heap should form an inseparable part of that system. But as there are at present, few who do this, we would earnestly recommend to all, as their crops are now laid by, to commence, immediately, collecting materials and making manure. Let each one try how much he can have ready for the next year's crop. Cut down the bushes and rank weeds, on the sides of branches and other places, and carry them where they are needed; haul up from the places where it has been carried by washing, all the rich beds of earth that are accessible, rich mud from the swamps, leaves from the woods, pine straw from the old fields, scrapings from the corners of the fences, &c. Mix these with your weeds and bushes, in heaps in your fields, to remain until rotted; or, put them in your lot to be mixed with your stable manure. These hints are sufficient for the judicious and industrious.—N. C. Farmer.

THE USE OF A SCRAP BOOK.—A friend of ours a few days since came near being strangled by a fish-bone sticking in his throat. He remembered having seen a specific in the newspapers for this evil. Consulting his scrap-book, he found the following, and by improving the hint was soon relieved from his difficulty:

"The white of an egg is said to be a specific for fish-bone sticking in the throat. It is to be swallowed raw, and will carry down a bone easily and certainly. There is

another fact touching eggs, which it would be well to remember. When, as sometimes by accident occurs, corrosive sublimate is swallowed, the white of one or two eggs, taken immediately, will neutralize the poison and change the effect to that of a dose of calomel."—*Mobile Advertiser.*

From Todd's Student's Manual.
BEWARE OF SEVERE SPEAKING IN COMPANY.

No matter whether the company be large or small, you may be sure that all you say about an absent person will reach him. You have done wrong, and an avenger will be found. I admire the warning which St. Austin is said to have had inscribed in the centre of his table at which he entertained his friends—

"Quisquis amat detis absentem rodere amicum, Hanc mensam indignam noverit esse sibi."

There is an almost universal propensity in mankind to slander each other, or at least, to throw out hints which detract from the good opinion which they suppose may be entertained of their fellows. The detractor cheats himself most egregiously, but never others. He tacitly believes that he is pushing this one, and thrusting that one, with the charitable purpose of keeping the unworthy out of the seat of those who merit the esteem of all. "I remember to have read in Diodorus Siculus an account of a very active little animal, which, I think, he calls the ichneumon, that makes it the whole business of his life to break the eggs of the crocodile, which he is always in search after. This instinct is the more remarkable, because the ichneumon never feeds upon the eggs he has broken, nor any other way finds his account in them. Were it not for the incessant labors of this industrious animal, Egypt, says the historian, would be overrun with crocodiles; for the Egyptians are so far from destroying these pernicious creatures, that they worship them as gods."

Do not those who may be denominated detractors of mankind, congratulate themselves that they are disinterested, like this little animal, and are really acting part of benefactors of mankind? They probably deceive themselves so frequently; but the deception is only upon themselves. But how do others view them? The rest of the world know that, if you detract, it is for the same reason that the Tartars are eager to kill every man of extraordinary endowments and accomplishments, firmly believing that his talents, how great or high soever, and what station soever they qualified him to occupy, will, upon his death, become, as a matter of course, the property of the destroyer. Were this theory correct, it would be an apology for those who indulge in severe remarks upon the absent; for, in most cases, it would be their only hope of possessing great excellencies of character. "But you say in detraction will not merely reach the ear of the individual against whom it is said, but it will prejudice the circle against him. We love to be prejudiced against people; and while you may say ten clever things of him which are forgotten, the two or three which you say against him, will be remembered."

"Nor is this all. Such remarks leave a stain in your own conscience. You cannot thus speak disparagingly of the absent, without giving conscience the right to call you to account, and tell you, in language which cannot be misconstrued, you have done wrong, and not as you would be done by."

Aristophanes was the enemy of Socrates; he slandered him, and even wrote a comedy to ridicule him, and especially his notions of the doctrine of the immortality of the soul. As Socrates was present to see the comedy acted, it was thought, and he felt it as a deadly treatment. But it has been remarked, by an acute observer, that he did feel it most deeply, though to wit to show it; for, as he was taking the bowl of poison, and about to drink it off, as he was entertaining his friends and strengthening his own mind by a conversation on the immortality of the soul he remarked, that he did not believe the most comic genius could blame him for talking on such a subject at such an hour. He probably had his detractor, Aristophanes, in his mind, on making this remark.

"He that indulges himself in ridiculing the little imperfections and weaknesses of his friend, will, in time, find mankind united against him. The man who sees another ridiculed before him, though he may, for the present, concur in the general laugh, yet, in a cool hour, will consider the same trick might be played against himself; but, when there is no sense of this danger, the natural pride of human nature rises against him, who, by general censure, lays claim to general superiority." Unless you have had your attention particularly called to this subject, you are probably not aware how many of these light arrows are shot at those who are absent.

An honest fellow was introduced into the most fashionable circle of a country village, and though he was neither learned nor brilliant, yet he passed off very well. But he had an incurable fault; he always staid so as to be the last person who left the room. At length, he was asked, categorically, why he always staid so long. He replied, with great good-nature and simplicity, that "as soon as a man was gone, they all began to talk against him; and, consequently, he thought it always judicious to stay till none were left to slander him."

The habit of flattering your friends and acquaintances is pernicious to your own character. It will injure yourself more than others. It is well understood among men, that he who is in the habit of flatter-

ing, expects to be repaid in the same coin, and that, too, with compound interest. This is a very different thing from bestowing that encouragement upon your friend in private which he needs for the purpose of calling forth praiseworthy efforts. Flattery is usually bestowed in public—probably for the purpose of having witnesses, before whom your friend now stands committed, to return what you are now advancing to him. But judicious encouragement will always be given in private. If you flatter others, they will feel bound to do so to you; and they certainly will do it. They will know that there is no other way in which they can cancel the obligations which you have imposed upon them; because no compensation but this will be satisfactory. Thus you hire others to aid you to become your own duke, and over-estimate your excellencies, whatever they may be. For a very obvious reason, then, you will deny yourself the luxury of being flattered. And especially do not fish for such pearls. You cannot do it in a single instance, without having the motive seen through. You may have been astonished at seeing young men greedily swallow praise, when they could not but know that he who was daubing was insincere. It used to be a matter of surprise to me, how it is that we love praise, even when we know that we do not deserve it. John-son, at a single plunge, has found the philosophy of the fact. "To be flattered," says he, "is grateful even when we know that our praises are not believed by those who pronounce them; for they prove at least our power, and show that our favor is valued, since it is purchased by the means of falsehood." The desire of the approbation of others, for their good opinion alone, is said to be the mark of a generous mind. I have no doubt it is so. Against this desire I am breathing no reproach. It is the character ascribed to Garrick by Goldsmith, against which I am warning you.

"Of praise a mere glutton, he swallowed what came, And the puff of a dance, he mistook it for fame, Till, his relish grown callous almost to disgrace, Who peppered the highest was surest to please. But let us be candid, and speak out our mind. If dances applauded, he paid them in kind."

THE UNWILLING BRIDEGROOM.

A young man had engaged himself for a playmate in early youth, but as his mind developed he perceived that he was mismatched, and wished to be released from his engagement. The young lady would not consent, and insisted upon being married. The young man appeared to yield, but when asked as usual, "Will you take this woman to be your wife?" he answered "No." At this unexpected answer the marriage party broke up in confusion.

The relatives of the rejected bride resented the insult offered to their family, and threatened prosecution. At last the young lady proposed that they should go again to Church and that the bridegroom should make the usual answer, promising when it came to her turn she would say no, that the refusal might appear to come from her. The bridegroom consented; but to his great surprise the bride answered yes, the marriage ceremony was concluded in form, and he found himself, against his will married man.

As they came out of the church he was heard to exclaim, "Ah! this revenge was too bitter! I did not deserve so heavy a punishment!"

A FEMALE CLERK OF A COURT.—The Frankfort (Ky.) Commonwealth says:—Judge Kinkead, of the 19th district, has performed a very handsome, and we are happy to hear, a very acceptable act, by the appointment of Mrs. Trimble, the accomplished and estimable lady of the late John Trimble, as clerk of the Carter circuit, in the place of her deceased husband.

GOING AHEAD.—A large manufacturer in this city told us on Saturday, says the *New Haven Register*, that the prospect for a good fall business was never better than it now is, and that so far from discharging his hands, he could not get as many as he wanted.

TO THE PUBLIC.

THE Session of Congress, which is about to terminate, will be long and gratefully remembered by all true republicans for the triumphant success of many of their cherished principles and measures. While we heartily rejoice at the triumph of the principles which it has been our constant effort to advocate and defend, and from which no prosperity, no adversity, can swerve us, we cannot be unmindful of the attitude in which we are placed by a recent vote of both houses of Congress; we allude to the contemplated withdrawal of their patronage from the newspaper press. To this decision we cheerfully bow, sensibly as we are of the patriotic motives which have led to it. But we trust that this decision of Congress increases rather than diminishes in claim to the support of a higher power for that of the people, and to them we confidently appeal to aid us, by their patronage,—sustaining at the seat of government a journal that is indelibly devoted to the interests of the country.

It is known to every one, that the chief source of sustaining a newspaper is not the magnitude of its subscription list, so much as the advertising patronage which may be bestowed upon it. In large commercial cities, indeed, the latter is usually the concomitant of the former, as it becomes the obvious interest of mercantile men to advertise in those papers which are the most extensively circulated. Washing-

ton, however, is differently situated. Deprived of the advertising patronage incident to a mercantile community, and burdened with peculiar and enormous expenses which are not elsewhere incurred, nothing but a very large list of subscribing patrons can sustain a paper in usefulness— if, indeed, even its existence. The proprietors of the *Union* have hitherto spared no pains, and no expense, to make their paper worthy of the metropolis, and worthy of the support of that great party under whose banner they are enlisted. In publishing the most full and ample debates of the two houses of Congress, it is believed, ever before attempted on this continent in a daily newspaper, they have secured the services of the best reporters which the country afforded, but at the enormous cost of \$12,000 or \$15,000 per year. Their extensive foreign and domestic correspondence is another large item of expense, but the constructive usefulness of which is so highly commended and appreciated as to justify almost any outlay to attain it. Still, it must be evident that these heavy expenses cannot be borne, unless the subscription list is commensurate to the undertaking; and although we can boast of 15,000 subscribers, (including daily, tri-weekly, and weekly,) but this list must be still considerably enlarged to enable the proprietors of the *Union* to sustain all its usefulness and to insure them against pecuniary loss. Invoking then, again, the aid and support of all true friends of republican government, and pledging ourselves to renewed efforts in the cause of the glorious principles we cherish, we offer the following proposals:

The *"DAILY UNION"* will be published, as heretofore, at \$10 per annum, payable in advance. Its character hitherto has been almost exclusively political. We propose in future to devote a portion of its columns to miscellaneous news of general interest, and to miscellaneous literature, which, without impairing its political influence, may render it the more acceptable to an extended class of readers.

The *"SEMI-WEEKLY UNION"* will be published every Monday and Thursday, during the recess of Congress, at \$5 per annum. This contains all the matter contained in the *"Daily Union,"* except local advertisements. During the sessions of Congress three numbers, instead of two, will be issued, without any extra charge to subscribers.

ENLARGEMENT OF THE WEEKLY UNION.

The *"WEEKLY UNION"* is issued every Saturday; and as arrangements are in progress to enlarge it near double its present size, we shall soon be enabled to give nearly every article which may appear in the daily and semi-weekly editions, at the extreme low rate of \$2. We propose also to give, in this edition, a complete synoptical summary of the proceedings in both houses of Congress,—the rendering of the *"Weekly Union"* a more valuable source of information to all classes of our country. But, to remunerate us for this enterprise, an extensive subscription list is absolutely indispensable.

We seize this opportunity to add that the delay has taken place in putting our paper to press, which has prevented its early delivery to our readers, and consequently circumscribed its circulation. We shall make arrangements to remedy this defect, and to obviate this objection. After the present week we trust that no complaint will be made upon this subject.

CONGRESSIONAL REGISTER.

In addition to the foregoing, we have resolved to publish, during the sessions of the national legislature, a *"Congressional Register,"* to be issued weekly, and to contain a full report of the daily proceedings and debates of both houses. Indeed, the arrangements which we have made with the very best corps of reporters will enable us to give even more full and extended reports than we have produced during this session, superior as we claim them to be to any preceding ones. The Register will be made up from the daily reports in the *Union,"* carefully revised by an experienced editor, and will constitute a complete and authentic record of the session. An appendix will be added, uniformly with the Register and to be sent gratuitously to subscribers, comprising a list of the acts passed during the session, with a synopsis of their contents, and a reference, when necessary, to previous legislation. This will form the most complete history of the sessions of Congress, and will be furnished at a low price of SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS for the next session.

POSTMASTERS are authorized to act as our agents; and by sending us five yearly subscribers, with the subscription money, for either the *Daily Semi-Weekly*, or *Weekly*, will be entitled to one copy of the same edition as they furnish us subscribers for.

The *CONGRESSIONAL REGISTER* will be furnished them on the same terms.

NEWSPAPERS publishing our prospectus, with the notes attached, until the 1st of December next, will be entitled, during the next session of Congress, to receive a copy of the *Congressional Union*, and *Tri-Weekly Union*.

Clubs will be furnished.

5 copies of the Daily for	\$40 00
5 " " Semi-Weekly,	20 00
10 " " do,	35 00
5 " " Weekly,	15 00
10 " " " "	30 00
20 " Congressional Register,	10 00

The name of no person will be entered upon our books unless the payment of the subscription be made in advance.

RITCHIE & HEISS
Washington, August 20, 1846.